AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8, cancel claims 12-47 and add new claims 48-56 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of dissipating power to store heat in a heating element of a temperature controlling device, and then releasing the stored heat to warm air for evaporating a composition containing a pharmaceutically active formulation, said method comprising the steps of:

supplying power from a portable power source to a heating element, said device having a long thermal time constant in still air of greater than about 10 seconds;

storing heat in the heating element as power is supplied from the portable power source;

~~determining when the heating element achieves a predetermined operating temperature;~~ and

flowing air over the heating element ~~after the heating element has achieved the predetermined operating temperature,~~ to release heat to the flowing air, whereby a thermal constant of said device for releasing heat to the flowing air is less than about ~~5~~ 10 seconds.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said thermal time constant in still air is greater than about 15 seconds.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said thermal time constant in moving air is from about 3.5 seconds to about 5 seconds.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said flowing air is driven by inhalation by a user on a channel fluidly connected with the heating element.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the portable power source comprises at least one battery and said supplying power comprises flowing electrical ~~energy~~ current through the heating element.

6. (Currently Amended) A method of improving the efficiency of a device for dissipating power to store heat in a heating element, storing heat in the heating element, and then releasing the

stored heat to warm air passing thereby, the warmed air being provided to a pharmaceutically active formulation, said method comprising the steps of:

modifying the device to increase the thermal time constant of the heating element in still air.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein said modifying to increase the thermal time constant in still air comprises coating the thermal element with ~~gold~~ a low emmisivity material.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein said modifying comprises providing a shield around the heating element ~~to absorb some heat that is lost from the heating element during storing of heat, wherein the shield functions as a secondary heat storage element that can subsequently release heat for warming the air passing thereby during an air warming operation~~.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said modifying further comprises providing at least one shield closing element in an open end of said shield.

10. (Original) A method of improving the efficiency of a device for dissipating power to store heat in a heating element, storing heat in the heating element, and then releasing the stored heat to warm air applied to a pharmaceutically active formulation, said method comprising the steps of:

modifying the device to decrease the thermal time constant of the device in moving air.

11. (Original) A method of improving the efficiency of a device for dissipating power to store heat in a heating element, storing heat in the heating element, and then releasing the stored heat to warm air passing thereby, the warmed air to be applied to a pharmaceutically active formulation, said method comprising the steps of:

modifying the device to increase the thermal time constant of the device in still air; and

modifying the device to decrease the thermal time constant of the device in moving air.

12.-47. (Cancelled)

48. (New) The method of claim 7 wherein said low emmisivity material is gold.

49. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

prior to flowing air, allowing the heating element to achieve a predetermined operating temperature.

50. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said heating element is an electrically resistive element having a surface area of about 25 to about 60 cm^2.

51. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said heating element is corrugated to form gaps to channel air therethrough.

52. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said heating element is constructed of two banks and each said bank is configured into a series of narrow channels.

53. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said heating element has a mass of about 0.1 to 4.0 grams and a surface area of about 30 to about 55 cm^2.

54. (New) The method of claim 53, wherein said element has a mass of about 0.2 to about 2.0 grams and a surface area of about 35 to about 45 cm^2.

55. (New) The method of claim 54, wherein said element has a mass of about 1.25 grams and a surface area of about 39 cm^2.

56. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said temperature controlling device is hand-held.